



**INDIAN  
INSTITUTE OF  
FOREIGN  
TRADE**

# **IIFT NEWSLETTER**

**APRIL-JUNE 2025**

## From the Vice Chancellor's Desk



The global economy today is at a pivotal juncture. Persistent geopolitical tensions, evolving trade patterns, and rapid technological shifts have created an environment where uncertainty and opportunity coexist. Nations are reassessing their economic strategies, businesses are redesigning supply chains, and policymakers are confronted with balancing resilience with openness. These dynamics underline the fact that the global economy is no longer defined merely by flows of goods and capital, but increasingly by knowledge, technology, and cooperation.

For India, these changes bring strategic significance. As one of the world's fastest-growing economies, our role in global trade and investment steadily expands. Harnessing this moment requires not only policy agility but also the intellectual preparedness of our academic institutions. Universities must serve as laboratories of ideas, where students and scholars critically examine global trends, anticipate risks, and design innovative solutions for sustainable growth.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, which appears to read 'R. Joshi', followed by a horizontal line.

**Prof. Rakesh Mohan Joshi**  
Vice Chancellor  
Indian Institute of Foreign Trade

## From the Editor's Desk



Today's global economy is navigating one of the most uncertain phases in history. Multilateralism, which has long underpinned the world trading system, is being tested by rising tariff disputes, unilateral policy shifts, and political realignments. The WTO's recent outlook, indicating a marginal contraction in global merchandise trade, underscores how volatility has become the norm. Measures once seen as extraordinary, such as reciprocal tariffs and selective trade restrictions, are now increasingly normalized as tools of economic statecraft. If left unchecked, this trend threatens to erode the credibility of global trade rules.

Yet, even within this climate of disruption, constructive steps are visible. The long-delayed Fisheries Subsidies Agreement, now in effect, demonstrates that consensus on sustainability is possible when nations recognize the urgency of collective action. Similarly, China's decision to voluntarily forgo some developing-country privileges in WTO negotiations marks a symbolic, though important, gesture towards more balanced burden-sharing. Though difficult, these developments remind us that reform and cooperation are still within reach when political will aligns with global interest.

Beyond tariffs and trade agreements, technological transformation has become a defining factor in global dynamics. Artificial intelligence is projected to significantly expand trade in goods and services over the next two decades. However, its benefits are unevenly distributed, concentrated mainly in advanced economies that dominate chip manufacturing, data infrastructure, and high-end research. Unless deliberate efforts are made to democratize access, AI risks deepening the North-South divide. This emerging digital asymmetry could entrench dependence in ways far more permanent than traditional trade barriers, creating a new layer of inequality in the global order.

Geopolitics is adding another layer of complexity by reshaping supply chains. The combined impact of the pandemic, strategic rivalries, and energy security concerns has accelerated the move towards "China +1" strategies, wherein companies diversify production beyond a single dominant hub. While this offers opportunities for emerging economies, it also increases the likelihood of fragmented trade flows and competing blocs. Furthermore, the weaponization of financial infrastructure through sanctions and alternative payment mechanisms signals economic fragmentation is spreading into finance and technology, not just goods and services.

The world stands at a turning point: either allow fragmentation to deepen, or invest in cooperative frameworks that serve collective interests. The choice will determine the future of trade and the prospects of peace and shared prosperity.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Sheeba Kapil".

**Dr. Sheeba Kapil**  
Head (Publications)

## Management Development Programmes

### 1-Day International Trade Orientation Programme, 16 April 2025

A one-day International Trade Orientation Programme was designed for the officers and Trainees of the Indian Administrative Services (IAS) (Batch-2023), held on 16 April 2025.



field of negotiations. The members of the stakeholder panel offered valuable suggestions, expressed confidence in the Centre's agenda, and extended their best wishes for its meaningful endeavours.

### CENTRE FOR INTERNATIONAL NEGOTIATIONS

#### Stakeholder Meet of the Centre for International Negotiations (1 May 2025)

Vice Chancellor, Prof. Rakesh Mohan Joshi, Head CIN, Prof. Rohit Mehtani, IIFT Faculty, distinguished external stakeholders representing industry bodies, government institutions, and international organizations offered a detailed

### 5-Days Training Programme on 'Globe X International Trade and Negotiations' 23-27 June 2025

The 5-day International Trade and Negotiations training programme was designed to provide participants with insights into international trade dynamics, negotiation techniques, and cross-border trade strategies. This course aims to enhance the participants' negotiation capabilities and global trade awareness, focusing on practical applications in international business and trade negotiations from 23-27 June 2025.



## Division of Alumni Affairs

### Dubai Alumni Dinner – 3 May 2025

The Dubai alumni dinner on 3 May 2025 was an elegant evening attended by 40 alumni. The dinner provided a relaxed atmosphere for reconnecting and celebrating shared achievements. Attendees enjoyed cultural performances and exchanged ideas on expanding professional networks in the Middle East region. The event reinforced the strong bonds within the Dubai alumni community.

### Mumbai Chapter Meet – 10 May 2025

The Mumbai Chapter Meet held on 10 May 2025 was a grand success with an enthusiastic turnout of 90 attendees. The event featured insightful discussions on industry trends, networking sessions, and inspiring talks from distinguished alumni. Participants appreciated the opportunity to reconnect and explore collaborative ventures. The vibrant venue fostered a strong community and engagement among the attendees.



### Bangalore Chapter Meet – 31 May 2025

The Bangalore chapter meet took place on 31st May 2025, drawing 75 alumni from diverse professional backgrounds. The meet focused on innovation and entrepreneurship, with panel discussions led by successful startup founders and industry experts. Attendees actively shared knowledge and networking, making the event informative and enjoyable. The chapter

plans to build on this momentum for future events.



### UK/Europe Chapter Meet – 14 June 2025

On 14 June 2025, the UK/Europe chapter convened with 80 participants joining from various cities. The meet emphasized global career opportunities and cross-border collaborations. Alumni shared experiences working in international markets and discussed strategies to strengthen the global alumni network. The well-received event highlighted the chapter's commitment to fostering global connections.

### Chennai Chapter Meet – 21 June 2025

The Chennai chapter meet held on 21 June 2025 gathered 30 alumni. The event focused on community building and social impact initiatives. Discussions revolved around leveraging alumni expertise to contribute to local development projects. The intimate setting allowed for meaningful conversations and planning of future collaborative efforts.



## Participation by IIFT Faculty

**Dr. Saswati Tripathi**, Professor

- Roy, S.S., Rangarajan, K., and Tripathi, S. (2025), “The Role of Firm-specific Factors of Organizational Structure, Strategic Orientation and Capabilities in Achieving Strategic Performance-Developing a Structure-Strategy-Capabilities-Strategic Performance Framework”, paper presented at the 15th International Conference on Excellence in Research and Education (CERE 2025), 2-4 May 2025, IIM, Indore.
- Roy, S.S. and Tripathi, S. (2025), “Impact of Supply Chain Performance on Firm Profitability in the Indian FMCG Sector - Analysis of SC Strategies Enabling Marketing Competitive Advantage”, paper presented at the Global Sales Science Institute Conference, 4-7 June 2025, IIM Shillong.

**Dr. Asheesh Pandey**, Professor

- Dr. Pandey is part of the research project “India’s Export Potential for Pet Food Industry”, awarded by CAPEXIL on 16 April 2025, in collaboration with Prof. Pooja Lakhanpal and Dr. Charu Grover.

**Dr. Oly Mishra**, Assistant Professor

- Presented a research paper at the 2nd International Marketing Conference at IIM Visakhapatnam (Vipanan 2025) on 9-10 May 2025.
- Presented a Case Study in the AIMA ICRC 5th Case Writing Competition & Conference 2025 held from 29-31 May 2025.



## Division of MA (Economics)

**Special Lecture conducted by IES**

A special lecture titled “Trumponomics and the New Global Order: Impact on India” was held by IES on 17 April 2025. Mr. Shishir Sinha, Associate Editor at *The Hindu Business Line*, delivered the Lecture.

**Research Methodology Workshop on Time Series Analysis**

The Economics Division organized a five-day Research Methodology workshop on “Time Series Analysis” from 30 June – 4 July 2025. Prof. Prachi Mishra was the distinguished speaker at the first day workshop. The objectives of the workshop were:

- To introduce the participants to basic advanced time series methods focusing on economics and business analysis.
- To provide hands-on training in time series methods with applications in real-world situations using EViews/Python.

A total of 24 participants attended the workshop, of which 19 were from other institutions. The workshop was successfully conducted, and positive feedback was received from the participants. The session was well-received, with attendees appreciating both the content and delivery. ●

## Publications by IIFT Faculty

**Dr. Niti Nandini Chatnani**, Professor

- Asthana, R., Chatnani, N.N. (2025), “Linkages Among Sustainable Cryptocurrencies, Developed, and Emerging Economies: An Empirical Study”, *Metamorphosis: A Journal of Management Research*, 11 June.

**Dr. Rajendra Prasad Sharma**, Professor

- Sama, R., Tolia, V., Sharma, R.P., Srivastava, S., and Yousaf, A. (2025), “Exploring Mindful Consumption in Cross-border E-commerce: Moderating Role of Return Policy Leniency”, *NMIMS Management Review*, 33(2), pp. 103-114.

**Dr. Asheesh Pandey**, Professor

- Online article “Crypto Reserves: India’s Next Step towards Financial Sovereignty” (with Radha Kaushik) published in *Policy Circle* on 20 April 2025 (available at: <https://www.policycircle.org/opinion/crypto-reserves-gold-reserves/>).

**Dr. Muhammed Rafi OPC**, Assistant Professor

- Augustine, B., and Rafi OPC, M. (2025), “Role of Macroeconomic Channels in the Debt-Growth Nexus: Evidence of Non-linearity”, in *India’s Public Finance and Policy Challenges in the 2020s*, pp. 331-350. ●

## Activities of Research Division

### I. Ph.D. Programme

- The admission brochure for the Ph.D. (Management) Programme, 2025 was released.
- The Final Ph.D. Viva of the 4 Scholars (Mr. Roshan, Batch-2018; Ms. Aanchal, Batch-2019; Mr. Amol Baxi, Batch-2019; and Mr. Vijay Kumar Sharma, Batch-2019) were conducted during May-June 2025 and they will be awarded the Ph.D. Degree in the upcoming Convocation 2025.

To equip the scholars with different research methods/research tools, the following Research Talks/Workshops were conducted:

### Research Talks

- A Research Talk on Neo-Mercantilism and Trump 2.0: Think Global and Act Local was organized on 4 April 2025. The keynote speaker was Prof. Biswajit Nag, Head, EMPD.
- A Research Talk on Panchamrit as a Strategy for International Business was organized on 27 May 2025. The keynote speaker was Mr. Sundeep Kumar Nayak, IAS (Retd.).

### Workshop

- A three-day Advanced Panel Data Analysis workshop was organized from 28-30 May 2025. Keynote speakers were Dr. Kaushik Bhattacharjee and Mr. Varunn Kaushik.

## Centre for Distance and Online Education (CDOE)

1. The CDOE division conducts the MOOC programme on the 'Basics of Export-Import Management' under the Niryat Bandhu Scheme of the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, GOI. Certificates are awarded monthly after the participants pass the examination successfully. 41 Certificates were distributed to the participants from April to June 2025.
2. The MBA(IB) Online Programme 2023-25 – Semester-IV concluded, and the end-term examination was conducted in June 2025. The results are being processed. (11 participants).
3. The following online certificate programmes are ongoing:

Programme Name	Duration	No. of Participants	Status
Online Certificate Programme on Export-Import Management Batch -02	Jan.–May 2025	28	Results declared, & grade certificates sheets are being prepared
Online Certificate Programme on Export-Import Management Batch -03	June–Oct. 2025	33	Online Sessions are in progress

4. The division organized a one-day industry visit to ICD Tughlakabad, Delhi, for the students of the Online Certificate Programme on 31 May 2025.
5. The division organized three online webinars during April–June 2025:

### Webinars

Date	Webinar	Speaker
17 May 2025	Global Trade War: A State Level Analysis of India's Economic Development	Dr. Narendra Kumar Bishnoi
31 May 2025	India's Self-Reliant Strategy	Mr. Vijay Sardana
14 June 2025	The Global Shift and Industrialization: The Case of India	Dr. Surajit Mazumdar

## 62nd Foundation Day of IIFT



## 11th International Yoga at IIFT Delhi



## ROUND TABLE CONFERENCE AT IIFT





# About IIFT

Indian Institute of Foreign Trade is an autonomous institute under the aegis of the Ministry of commerce, Government of India. The institute was granted “Deemed to be University” status in 2002. The Institute is granted AACSB accreditation on 17th November 2021. With this, IIFT bags a position amongst the top 900+ business institutes in the world having received this accreditation. The National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC) has also recognized IIFT as Grade “A+” institution in its third cycle in 2023. IIFT has four Campuses: Delhi, Kolkata, Kakinada, and GIFT City (Gandhinagar). IIFT is also opening its first overseas campus at Expo City Dubai.

